

IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

PATENT APPLICATION

Applicant(s): DONALD F. GORDON ET AL.
Case: DIVA/006CIP1
Serial No.: 09/359,562 Filed: 7/22/99
Examiner: SAX, S. P. Group Art Unit: 2173
Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR PROVIDING A MENU
STRUCTURE FOR AN INTERACTIVE INFORMATION
DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM

#10/B
12-3-02

37 C.F.R. §1.116 RESPONSE

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

S I R:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed August 28, 2002 (Paper No. 9),
please amend this application and consider the following discussion as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 33, line 23, with the
following amended paragraph:

B1
At step 652, to facilitate a transition, the routine freezes the background video
and prepares the set top terminal for the next applet or video transmission. In addition,
the CPU executes a latency masking process as disclosed in commonly assigned
United States patent 5,781,227, issued July 14, 1998. The applet ends at step 654.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 36, line 17, with the
following amended paragraph:

B2
Specifically, the exemplary interactive program guide screen 2000 comprises a
time of day/date (TOD) indicator 2005, a promotional "splash" object 2010, a cable